

Conservation Act. This act resulted in the creation of over 100 million acres of parks, wildlife refuges and national forests and tripled the amount of land designated as wilderness.

During this debate, the Alaska delegation asked for a stipulation to allow the coastal plain of ANWR to remain open for oil and gas exploration and development, as it was when the Arctic Range was created.

As in the pipeline debate, many Members raised concerns about the environmental impact such development would have on the region. However, even those Members acknowledged that oil and gas exploration and development would occur if necessary for our national security.

Even Congressman Udall stated:

[N]othing stops some future Congress from allowing the exploration for these uses if they are of sufficient national importance.

He went on to say that a:

sizable find in the Arctic Range [would be] economically feasible by the year 2000.

Thus, even a staunch environmentalist acknowledged that the coastal plain of ANWR would be developed in the future.

To ensure that the oil and gas rich coastal plain remained open for exploration and development, I worked closely with Senator Henry "Scoop" Jackson and Senator Paul Tsongas. They promised that oil and gas activity would take place in ANWR subject to an environmental impact statement.

In the spirit of compromise, Senators Jackson and Tsongas created Section 1002 of ANILCA, which set aside 1.5 million acres along the coastal plain of ANWR for oil and gas exploration and development.

But in the years that followed, the promise made by Senators Jackson and Tsongas has not been upheld. I have now fought for 24 years to see that promise fulfilled and to bring to the United States the energy resources it so desperately needs. I have been thwarted because this body no longer respects the promises made by its predecessors.

There is a new climate in Congress. With the retirement and passing of the old bull World War II types like myself, a Member's word doesn't carry the meaning it used to. Even President Jimmy Carter, who signed the 1980 act, has failed to honor the legislation he helped create. I recently received a letter from President Carter which said that "Congress may try to subvert parts of ANILCA" by utilizing the budget process.

Congress has not gone back on its commitments, nor is it taking a "back door approach" to legislating this important issue. Section 1002 specifically authorizes exploratory oil and gas activities on the coastal plain and mandates an environmental study. That environmental impact study was completed and submitted to Congress in 1987!

Section 1003 of the 1980 act states that no development in ANWR can

take place without Congressional authorization. We have tried for years to open ANWR pursuant to that section, and have been thwarted by the threat of a filibuster.

President Carter also stated that we are trying to "circumvent normal legislative procedures" by inserting ANWR into the budget process. I ask my colleagues, since when have filibusters become "normal legislative procedure?" Isn't the will of the people served by a simple majority vote? That is all we are asking for when we put this in the Budget Resolution, a simple majority vote, and not subjecting ANWR to a filibuster, which was unheard of in the 1970's in matters concerning national security, and the availability of this oil from our Arctic is surely a matter of national security.

This year is my 37th year in the Senate; I can remember a time when the filibuster was used sparingly, and I don't recall it ever being used when an issue of national security importance was before the Senate.

ANWR is a national security issue. When the Nation depends on 60 percent of our energy needs from unstable or unfriendly regimes, that involves a national security issue. When U.S. companies move their operations offshore because of high energy prices, this is a national security issue. When Americans can no longer afford to heat their homes, this is a national security issue. And when our military, which is the largest consumer of energy resources, is forced to rely on oil from the Middle East, this is a national security issue.

This Congress has failed to balance conservation with development and now we are—literally—paying the price.

We have not seized opportunities to increase domestic production of oil and natural gas. And, higher gasoline prices, dependence on foreign oil, and a fragile economy—issues that many Members have expressed concern about—are the signs that another energy crisis looms over us.

It is my hope that my colleagues will heed the lessons of history and act now. We cannot wait for another national crisis. The provisions in the budget resolution starting the process of approval of ANWR by majority vote must be supported.

Further, Congress must make good on its promise and open ANWR to exploration and development and begin the projects our country needs to meet our energy demands now.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MARTINEZ). The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent there now be a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2005

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about the need for hate crimes legislation. Each Congress, Senator KENNEDY and I introduce hate crimes legislation that would add new categories to current hate crimes law, sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society. Likewise, each Congress I have come to the floor to highlight a separate hate crime that has occurred in our country.

A 45-year-old transgender woman was found beaten to death by San Francisco authorities last August. The woman, Toni Green, was born a male but lived as a woman. Police investigating the case believe this may have been the motivation behind the attack.

I believe that the Governments first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act is a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation and changing current law, we can change hearts and minds as well.

PUBLIC SAFETY EMPLOYER- EMPLOYEE COOPERATION ACT

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, it is a privilege to join with Senator GREGG in championing this important legislation to give fire fighters, police officers, emergency medical personnel, and other first responders the basic right at long last to fair representation in the workplace.

Every year, tens of thousands of police officers and fire fighters are injured on the job. Even apart from the extraordinary tragedy of the loss of over 400 fire fighters and police officers on a single day on 9/11, hundreds of fire fighters and police officers lose their lives in the line of duty each year. This bill is a needed bipartisan effort to protect our Nation's public safety officers and the communities they serve. Providing such protections is the least we can do for them in light of the sacrifices they make every day for our country.

For more than 60 years, the Federal Government has recognized the right of employees to bargain collectively with their employers. It encourages labor and management to work together to improve wages and working conditions and increase productivity. Collective bargaining has led the way on many important changes in today's workplace, such as health and pension benefits, paid holidays and sick leave, and workplace safety. Our legislation will